

VII.—*Characters of a new Species of Axolotl.*

By Prof. OWEN, F.R.S.

Genus AXOLOTES*.

Gyrinus, Shaw; *Phyllhydrus*, Brooks; *Siredon*, Wagler; *Axolotl*, Humboldt and Cuvier.

Sp. 1. *guttata*. *A. fusca*, nigro-guttata, capite antice rotundato, cauda compresso-lanceolata.

Shaw, Nat. Misc. no. 343, *Gyrinus mexicanus*; Gen. Zool. iii. p. 612. pl. 140, *Siren pisciformis*.

Humboldt and Cuvier, Voyage de Humboldt, Zoologie, 2^{eme} partie, Reptiles douteux, p. 109. pl. 12, *Axolotl du Mexique*.

Home, Phil. Trans. 1824, p. 419. pl. 22 and 23, *Mexican Proteus*.

Wagler, Icones Amphib. tab. 20, *Siredon Axolotl*.

Longitudo 7 unc. ad 14 unc.

Hab. In lacu juxta urbem Mexico.

Sp. 2. *maculata*. *A. grisea*, nigro-marmorata, subtus lactea, capite antice truncato, cauda compresso-rotundata.

Longitudo 3 unc. ad 5 unc.

Hab. In Mexico, in fluviis Sierræ Madre, Chihuahua, lat. 26° 6' N., long. 106° 50' W.



Axolotes maculata, nat. size.

VIII.—*On Ova believed to be those of the Large Spotted Dog-fish, Scyllium Catulus, Linn. (sp.).*

ABOUT the middle of the month of December last, there were sent to the Belfast Museum two plants of the tangle (*Laminaria digitata*),

* This rendering of the Mexican word, first applied generically by Cuvier, has long been adopted by Mayer and other German anatomists: the word is inflected according to the third declension—*Axolotes, is, em, ibus*. The characters of the first known species, for which the trivial names '*mexicana*' and '*pisciformis*' have ceased to be distinctive, are prefixed to render those of the second species more intelligible.